

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 PARIS 16990 121111Z

51

ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 IO-14 ISO-00 AEC-11 PM-07

ACDA-19 CIAE-00 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 RSC-01

FEAE-00 DODE-00 SS-20 DRC-01 /139 W

----- 097927

R 121052Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

SECSTATE WASHDC 0777

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 16990

DEPT FOR SCI PASS AEC

E.O. 11652: DGS

TAGS: TECH, IN

SUBJECT: FRENCH NUCLEAR SAFEGUARDS

REF: A. NEW DELHI 9100 (NOTAL) B. NEW DELHI 9099

(NOTAL)

SUMMARY: AS EMBASSY NEW DELHI IMPLIES, CANADIANS SOLD THE FRENCH PLUTONIUM PRODUCED IN CANADIAN REACTORS AND NOT IN AN INDIAN REACTOR. INDIAN INVOLVEMENT FOLLOWED FROM THEIR BILATERAL SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT WITH THE CANADIANS. ACCORDING TO FRENCH NUCLEAR OFFICIAL, FRENCH SHARE WITH NPT SIGNATORIES THE OBJECTIVE OF PREVENTING NUCLEAR WEAPONS PROLIFERATION BUT PREFER MORE FLEXIBLE MEANS, DECIDED ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS. END SUMMARY.

1. REF B FROM NEW DELHI REPORTS CONVERSATION OF AEC OFFICIAL OMENN AND EMBASSY PARIS SCIATT WITH BERTRAND GOLDSCHMIDT, HEAD INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS FOR
CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PARIS 16990 121111Z

THE COMMISSARIAT DE L'ENERGIE ATOMIQUE (CEA).

FOLLOWING IS CLARIFICATION OF THAT REPORT.

2. PER REF A FRENCH DID NOT BUY FROM THE CANADIANS PLUTONIUM PRODUCED IN THE INDIAN REACTOR BUILT BY THE CANADIANS. WHAT GOLDSCHMIDT SAID, AS RECOLLECTED BY SCIATT AND LATER CONFIRMED BY GOLDSCHMIDT'S ASSISTANT, WAS THAT IN SEPTEMBER 1968 THE CANADIANS SOLD THE FRENCH PLUTONIUM PRODUCED IN CANADA. HOWEVER, BECAUSE OF THE EXISTING SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CANADIANS AND THE INDIANS, THE INDIANS INSISTED ON THEIR RIGHT TO CONTROL CANADIAN EXPORTS OF PLUTONIUM. AS THEY WERE PIQUED AT THE CANADIANS AT THE TIME, THEY VETOED THE PROPOSED SALE. THE FRENCH THEREUPON PREVAILLED UPON THE INDIANS AND CONVINCED THEM TO RELENT.

3. PARAGRAPH 1 REF B SHOULD NOT REPEAT NOT BE INTERPRETED AS INDICATING A LACK OF FRENCH CONCERN FOR SAFEGUARDS. THE WHOLE THRUST OF GOLDSCHMIDT'S REMARKS WAS THAT THE FRENCH HAD THE SAME OBJECTIVE AS NPT SIGNATORIES, THAT IS, TO PREVENT THE PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. THEY HAVE, HOWEVER, A DIFFERENT VIEWPOINT ON THE MEANS TO ACHIEVE THIS OBJECTIVE. THEY PREFER A FLEXIBLE CASE BY CASE APPROACH, ADAPTABLE TO SPECIFIC CHARACTERISTICS OF EACH CASE (AS NOTED IN REF B PARA 6.). THUS THEY BELIEVE THEY CAN AVOID SUCH UNINTENDED PROBLEMS AS THE INDIAN INTERVENTION INTO THE CANADIAN SALE OF PLUTONIUM TO FRANCE. GOLDSCHMIDT CONTINUED THAT THE FRENCH RECORD ON SAFEGUARDS IS CLEAN EXCEPT FOR THE DIMONA REACTOR THE FRENCH BUILT FOR THE ISRAELIS BEFORE THE SYSTEM OF SAFEGUARDS TOOK ITS PRESENT FORM. THIS ACTION THEY NOW PROFOUNDLY REGRET.

4. RE REF B PARA 4, GOLDSCHMIDT ALSO SAID THAT THE FRENCH DID NOT IN ANY WAY HELP THE INDIANS DIRECTLY IN DEVELOPING A CAPABILITY FOR EXPLODING NUCLEAR DEVICES, UNLESS ONE INCLUDES THE EXPERTISE INDIAN SCIENTISTS HAVE ACQUIRED IN FRENCH UNIVERSITIES AND LABORATORIES. ON SEPARATE OCCASIONS BOTH HE AND AN MFA OFFICIAL HAVE ASSURED US THAT ADEQUATE SAFEGUARDS EXIST ON THE FAST-BREEDER EXPERIMENTAL REACTOR THE FRENCH BUILT IN INDIA.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PARIS 16990 12111Z

HE CONTINUED THAT THE FRENCH DID NOT SAFEGUARD THE HEAVY-WATER PLANTS THEIR INDUSTRIAL CONCERN BUILT IN INDIA BECAUSE THEY DID NOT FEEL IT WAS EITHER NECESSARY OR POSSIBLE TO DO SO.

5. WITH THE ABOVE CLARIFICATIONS AND ADDITIONS, REF B IS A USEFUL RECORD OF THE REMARKS OF A LEADING, KNOWLEDGEABLE FRENCH NUCLEAR OFFICIAL.

IRWIN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SALES, PLUTONIUM, EXPORTS, NPT, NUCLEAR REACTORS, NUCLEAR SAFEGUARDS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974PARIS16990
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740186-0952
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740753/aaaabtos.tel
Line Count: 114
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SCI
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. NEW DELHI 9100 (NOTAL) B. NEW DEL, HI 9099
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 MAR 2002 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <13 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRENCH NUCLEAR SAFEGUARDS
TAGS: TECH, IN, FR, CA, (OMENN, DR), (GOLDSCHMIDT, BERTRAND)
To: NEW DELHI STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005